SUMB NEW BOOKS. Hangroft's History of California

The thirteenth volume of The History of the Mc States, which is in course of publication by HUBERT H. BANCBOFT (San Francisco), recounts the discovery and first settlement of the region formerly known to geographers as Alta or News California, and which comprises the area now embraced by the States of California and Nevada and the Territories of Arizonia and Utah. Although this installment of the parrative begins in 1542, with an account of the first Spanish voyager who is known to have beseld any part of the coast of Upper California, and brings us to the close of the eighteenth century, yet this period of two and a half conturies includes little more than thirty years of actual occupation, there being no proof that any Spaniard had settled within the limits of the territory before 1769. When we consider the modest scale of the attempts at coloniza-tion and the uneventful story of the first thirty years, it may be thought that Mr. Baneroft has given an inordinate amount of space to the small and obscure beginning of Californian annals. But the truth is doubtle that in this portion of his work the author is writing rather for his adopted State than for the wide audience which he elsewhere ades, and has, therefore, indulged himself in an affluence of local and personal details that He has gone so far in this direction as to an pend to the present volume a nearly complete list of all the European residents of Upper Cal-ifornia, from the foundation of the first Spanish fort and mission in 1769, up to the year 1800 Even for such an enumeration there is a precedent in Homer's catalogue of ships, and al-though the biographical data with which this book abounds may a little tax the patience of the general reader, they will be scanned with keen interest by the descendants of the colonists in question. . To the Spaniard of our day it must seem one

blunders that such insatiable treasure seekers as were the conquerors of Mexico should have had beneath their hand for upward of three centuries the gold of California and the silver of Nevada, and that a prize so rich should have been finally surrendered by their descendants in complete unconsciousness of its incom-parable value. It is probable that had the discovery of the coast of Upper California been promptly followed by settlement the mineral wealth of the interior would have been speedily made known. Had there lingered in the colo-nists of 1769 a trace of the courage, the enterprise, and the cupidity by which the conquistadores and their immediate descendants were inspired, they would have forthwith traced the Speramento and San Joaquin Rivers to their sources, and, in the beds of mountain streams or in the quartz of the foot hills, their quick eyes must have caught, as those of the Yankee argonauts were to do centuries afterward, abundant indications of the presence of the vellow metal. The failure of the Spaniards to colonise Upper California at a very early date is indeed a mystery; for not only was the coast line known within a few years after the conquest of the Aztec monarchy by Cortez, but no sooner had the ships from the Philippines begun their regular voyages to Acapulco than stations of recruitment and repair at points on the west coast north of the thirtieth degree of latitude were imperatively called for. Suggestions, and even orders, look-ing to the formation of such settlements were repeatedly issued from Madrid, but were as stantly disobeyed, and when at last, in 1769, only eighty years before the transfer of Unper fornia to the United States, a few weak garrisons were stationed along the coast, the spirit of adventure and the thirst for gold had died away, and the opportunities which earlier would have been swiftly seized were thrown away upon the handful of sleepy sol-diers in the shabby Presidios and on the patient friars, who cared only for converting and teaching the docile Indians who thronged

about their missions.

The name California (whose meaning is unknown, though many derivations have been suggested) was originally applied to the peninsuia (at first supposed to be an island) which we now know as Lower California. With the progress of discovery it naturally came to designate the country stretching beyond the peninsula indefinitely northward toward Asia. except as the application of the term was interrupted, in the view of some geographers, by Drake's New Albion. After 1769 the upper country was known for a time as the New Establishments, or the Northern Missions. But in California Septentrional, California del Norte and California Superior occur, though from the date of the separation of the provinces in 1804 Nueva California became the legal name up to 1824, when Alta California is found in official documents. But whatever name might be given to this region, the little that was really known about it before 1769 was founded on the reports of five expeditions, that o Cabrillo in 1542-8, that of Francis Drake in 1579, that of Gali in 1584, that of Cermenon in 1595, and that of Vizonino in 1602-8. A detailed account of the voyage of Cabrillo exists in the Spanish archives, and has been twice translated into English, and, although the navigator was mistaken in his latitude, and often obscure in his descriptions, there is no doubt that he kirted the coast of Upper California from San Diego, passing through Santa Barbara Chansel, stopping in a bay which should apparently be identified with that of Monterey, and reaching a headland which Mr. Bancroft would not put further than Point Beyes, but which other ommentators have placed further north. The set region visited by Cabrillo was at that time inhabited by people who used canoes, lived mainly by fishing, and were, in many respects, superior to the tribes whom the col-onists of the eighteenth century encountered

That Sir Francis Drake in 1579 landed some where on the coast of Upper California is inputable. It is curious when we consider the blindness subsequently evinced by the Spanish colonists to the riches that lay at their doors, that Drake is said to have noted of the country that he calls New Albion, "There is no part of earth here to be taken up wherein there is not some special likelihood of gold or siler." Drake certainly stayed long enough in the harbor where he landed to repair his vessel. out there has been much controversy regarding his place of anchorage. There are three har-bors not far apart on the coast, those of Bodoga, Drake (Old San Francisco), and San Francisco any one of which, to a certain extent, may wer the requirements of the data supplied by the record of the voyage. Mr. Bancroft dises the question at some length, and arrives at the conclusion that Drake's "faire and good bay" was, at all events, not that of San Francisco, though the evidence is not sufficiently explicit to determine which of the other two harbors named he had in view.

Fourteen years before Drake had found his way into these waters, the Philippine ships had begun to follow a northern course in returning across the Pacific to Acapulco, and in 1584 one Francisco Gali made the coast of Calfornia under 87° 80', and followed it thence all the way to Cape San Lucas. The fact that he les to Cape Mendocino, a name not mentioned by Cabrillo, indicates that there was an led voyage preceding that of Gali. The fourth voyage known, however, to Californian annals was, like the third, from the far West. In 1595 the pilot Cermenon, coming from the Philippines, made some explorations the coast, with the view of finding a suitable station for the Manilla fleet, Of Cermenon's adventures, we know only that his vessel ran aground on a see shore, behind what was later d Point Reyes, and lost a large part of his cargo. Mr. Bancroft entertains but little doubt that Cermelion named the port of his disaster San Francisco, perhaps from the day of his arrival. This was of course the harbor that was subsequently known as Drake Bay, or Old San Francisco. Eight years after Cormenon's voyage a Spanish explo der Sebastion Viscoine anchored in San Diego It may as well be understood here that Mr. Par. and seconded mentheurd for the express Newton offers no crizinal material of judg-

purpose of finding a suitable port for the ne ships. There is no indication that Cabrillo's discoveries were known to Viscaino, for he names all the narbors and headlands afresh. Viscaino himself seems to have gone as far north as Cape Mendocino, and perhaps a little further, and one of his companions in another vessel reached, if he did not pass, the present Oregon line. If we except the discovery of Monterey Bay, these explorers accom-plished little more than had Cabrillo sixty years before, but the results of their voyage were clearly recorded and widely published, whereas the information gained by his predecessor had falled to enter into the stock of the world's knowledge. "From 1603." says Mr. Bancroft, summing up the results of Spanish exploration, "the trend and general character of the California coast, together with its chief harbors (always excepting the undiscovered San Francisco), were well known to the Spaniards from Viscaino's reports." For more than a century and a half, however, there was no addition made to the meagre store of data. "No ship is known to have entered the northern waters from the south, while the Manila vessels from the west neither touched at the new havens nor left any record of what they saw as they passed. Viscaino made strong efforts to be intrusted with a new expedition for the occupation of Monterey; but attention was diverted elsewhere, and although he himself, on his return from Japan in 1613, again sighted Cape Mendocino, no further attempts were made to investigate the northern coast. There is a perfect blank of one hundred and sixty-six years in the annals of what we call California." A large part of the present volume is allotted to the tardy occupation of Alta California, which was begun by Spain, after a feeble, tentative fashion, in 1769. More than six hundred pages are devoted to the experiences of the colonists during the first thirty years. As the date, however (1800), with which the book before us closes is an arbitrary one, we shall defer a notice of the Spanish settlements in California until the appearance of the next volume, when the brief (and from the point of view of general history unim portant) record of the Spanish garrisons and missions in this outlying and neglected provnce may be continuously though succinctly

## The Condemned Sermons.

It is a vast and ancient scaffolding of theology that falls from the minds of those parishioners of the Rev. R. Heber Newton, who, having believed in the orthodox faith, accept the philoso phy of the course of sermons (Book of the Beginnings: G. P. Putnam's Sons) which were abruptly brought to an end a few weeks ago by the acting Bishop of the Episcopal Church for this diocese. In fact, the fundamental dogmas and doctrines upheld as Scriptural and divine by all the evangelical denominations of Protestantism are openly challenged by this resolute American iconoclast, who strange to say, still wears the robes and wields the authority of Episcopal priesthood.

It was about two years ago that THE SUN published (from his own manuscript) the first of those sermons in which the Rev. Mr. Newton proclaimed the opinions he had formed adverse to the accepted Protestant method of Biblical interpretation and the ordinary Protestant faith in Biblical inspiration and prophecy. It was a revelation that amazed and alarmed the Newton as a pillar of the Church, faithful to his trust, and diligent in the care of souls. Their alarm was tempered only by the assurance that he would quickly be brought under discipline for his theological aberration, and that thus the fortress of orthodoxy would be saved by the silencing of his guns. It even appeared for a few days as though he himself was somewhat stunned by the noise of his own language, and by the hubbub that was raised over it. But he had recovered himself by the next Sunday after his first discourse, when he again appeared in his pulpit armed as before. and carried still further through his orthodox church the heterodoxy of which he had sud-Sunday he pushed the advantages he had won. until, in the opinion of many of his bearers, he had demolished the whole of the ancient superstructure of Biblical religion. Yet all this time his Bishop had never interfered with him, and his parishioners had rallied around

him closer than ever.

This thing had not been done in a corner. Multitudes of new hearers flocked to his church. THE SUN gave his sermons to the whole country every week. Other papers made haste to report them. The so-called religious press of all the sects got out their old blunderes for protection against him; he was denounced from scores of pulpits as a dragon in ticlers of parti-colored heretics hailed him with hosannahs as a prophet of their own peculiar

Yet the venerable Bishop to whom he was subordinate never raised a hand or voice of warning, never took a step toward unfrocking the bold priest, whom his Church would, in other days, have burned at the stake as a bias phemer.

At last, some time after the Rev. Mr. Newton had finished his series of sermons, formal charges looking to his trial and removal from the ministry were brought against him and presented to his Bishop, not by his own parish, but under the auspices of certain members of the Episcopal Church, cierical and lay, had taken umbrage at his extraordinary utterances. They made impressive announcement that the charges had been formally laid before the Bishop. They anxiously awaited the Bishop's action upon them, and they took various means of prompting him to bring the recusant to trial and judgment. But month after month passed without any sign whatever from that quarter, and it was nearly a year after the publication of the sermons when Bishop Horatio Potter gave both the accusers and the accused to understand that he found no proper ground of action in the charges. Is der that the orthodox accusers reeled under the discomfiture which they had brought upon themselves?

The preacher had been so audacious as to publish in book form the unexpurgated text of the sermons which had startled orthodoxy. He had announced on the title page that they were by the "Rector of All Souls' Protestant Episcopal Church, New York city;" his own parish, a rich and fashionable one, had stood by him in the attitude he had taken; and now the distinguished theologian and aged prelate to whom appeal had been made virtually rendered judgment in his favor. Thus, surprise As a matter of course, all this greatly

strengthened the position of the Rev. Mr. Newon; and soon after it had been determined last autumn that he was not to be subjected to an ecclesisatical trial, he began anothe series of critical discourses upon the Bible. opening with the book of Genesis. He had delivered but a few of these discourses, how-ever, when, as he says in the preface, there arose an "excitement which led to the action of my Bishop"—through his recently chosen assistant-"asking me to discontinue" them. Mr. Newton felt that under the circumstances his duty was obedience, and the discourse were abruptly brought to an end. "But." he says. "the singular position in which I was thus put made it seem due, alike to my people and myself, that the public should be enabled to judge of the real nature of the lectures which had called forth such a very unusual, if not unprecedented, episcopal interruption of a presbyter in the course of his parochial minis-trations. Neither deference to my Bishop." he adds, "nor the sincerest desire for peace, can make it right that I and the people who have so loyally upheld me in good report and in evil report should rest under the misconstructions which have been placed upon the teachings of

All Souls' pulpit." And so, of the projected course of sermons both those that were delivered and those cut off from delivery are published in "The Book an Introduction to the Pentateuch."

It may as well be understood here that Mr.

nent, no novel method of investigation, when he takes up the so-called Mosaic records. The main feature of interest in the book is the freedom. Elberality, independence, and bold-ness with which, from an orthodox pulpit. undertakes to present to his flock the results of modern critical research in Moseology. Well were it for the Church and the world, the Bible and the truth, if all pulpits were filled with preachers as frank as Mr. Newton shows him-self to be in the first half of this book. At the very opening of the first discourse he challenges the Mosaic authorship of the books

of the Pentateuch, and he finds in the varia-

narrative, their structure, and their style, the evidence that they were not the work of a sin-

gle hand, or written at the period to which they

are ordinarily ascribed, but are a patchwork of ancient fragments brought together long after their original composition. While Ewald thinks that he can pick out the work of seven differenthands in the Pentateuch, and Davidson distinguishes four writers, Mr. Newton shows us how he is able to see the forms of the two authors who, with the Deuteronomist, "undoubtedly" wrote the bulk of the fivefold book, leaving it for some final editor to fashion into its present shape their triple workmanship. There is no authority whatever for the titles of the various books in the English version, such as "The First Book of Moses, called Genesis." These titles form no part of the original text, and are not found in the Hebrey manuscripts, nor in the Septuagint, nor yet in the Vulgate, but only in some modern translations. Genesis has not the slightest hint as to its authorship, nor any clue that links it with Moses. Nowhere is there a claim of Mosaic authorship for the Pentateuch as a whole, nor for any one of its five books, with the possible excep-tion of Deuteronomy. The historical narration nowhere professes to have come from the pen of Moses as a complete composition; and Martin Luther thought that Adam and the antediluvian patriarchs were among its authors. In the second division of the Pentateuch, the legislation is declared to have been given through Moses, as the mouthpiece of Jehovah; but Mr. Newton holds that we can interpret such an expression of the ancient Hebrews without ascribing to the Divine Being this whole mass of beterogeneous legislation, sometimes rude and even savage. Mr. Newton disputes the Mosaic authorship of even the whole book of Deuterproduction." The last chapter he holds to be certainly a postscript, as it narrates the death and burial of Moses, while the words "Moses wrote this law" are fairly open to the suspicion of being an ap-pendix. In the other books of the Bible Mr. Newton finds no affirmation that Moses wrote the Pentateuch; and the allusions to the "law Moses doubtless gave the Hebrews the decalogue, with perhaps other laws; and this origi nal germ constituted the nucleus around which later legislation slowly crystallized, the successive growths all taking on the name and authority of the first lawgiver. As to Christ's allusions to Moses, Mr. Newton holds that he did not come to teach Biblical criticism, but adapted his language to the beliefs of his times, and perhaps did not know himself that there was little foundation for the tradition in which he had been nurtured. But Mr. Newton quickly leaves this ground, upon which his reasoning must be wholly unsatisfactory to every man who retains even a shred of faith in the divine character of the Founder of Chris-

tianity. Mr. Newton follows the German critics in putting the period of the completion of the Pentateuch about ten centuries after the death of Moses, and he argues that the Levitical legislation assumed its present shape after the emergence of the nation from the Babylonian exile, at the end, not the beginning, of Israel's life, the seventh century before Christ.

The inquiry. Who did write the Pentateuch?

carries the preacher into the boundless realm of conjecture. It was made up partly of ancient oral traditions, groups of primeval sagas, elaborating the crude forms of the early myths. poetically parrating the mysteries of the beginnings, and all these were, in course of ages, slowly fashioned into artistic lines. As to the body of law, it grew from the ever-increasing mass of judgments given by the tribal sheiks, and the whole formed an ample store of legal material for the codifiers who finally turned it into a compact body of legislation. As the book grew, long after the death of Moses, the Jewish religion developed, till at last the paraphernalia of worship, society, and ic law took on the appeared at their maturity after the Babylonian exile. Men once supposed that they had a history from the pen of Moses; but the first draft of the book imagined to have been written by his hand turns out to have been composed five centuries after that hand had crumbled into dust, and the completed work proves to have been almost a thousand years later than his age.

After covering this ground and much more the Bev. Mr. Newton very naturally reaches the conclusion that the books of the Pentateuch. in their entirety, can no longer be regarded as constituting a direct revelation, and that they were not miraculously communicated to the minds of the writers, either by direct dictation from God or by any modification of such a theory of inspiration as the ingenuity of Jewish and Christian rabbins has devised.

As we said at the opening of this notice, what a vast scaffolding of ancient theology must fall from the mind of the man, once orthodox, who accepts this view of the books that lie at the foundation of the whole evangelical superstructure! What broad and genial liber ality must have taken possession of that great Christian communion which honors as a member of its priesthood the theologian who discourses in the destructive style here set forth!

The Moses of ancient faith, of the divine commission, and of the inspired Pentateuch—what

is left of him or his work? The fourth discourse of the volume, "The Primeval Sagas," deals with the book of Genesis, which is made up of allegories and legends similar to those which are associated with all ancient religions. On the baked-clay tablets of Babylonia, handed down independently of the Hebrews, we see rude pictures of the tree of life, with the man and the woman. the apple and the serpent; and in the Grecian legend of the Garden of the Hesperides we have the golden apples guarded by the serpent. The Cherubim are probably to be identified familiar from the Assyrian explorations; and so with the other passages of Genesis. says Mr. Newton, "here is not the history of an individual Adam; it is a symbolic story, a prose poem, whose meaning is not hard to guess.

Thus Adam also disappears. And the theological scaffolding that rose from the fall of Adam must fall with his exit. The children of Seth were "fabulous demi-gods of Semitic legend;" Nimrod looms up for s moment only to be transformed into an allegory of empire; the flood is a prose poem; and the Tower of Babel is the Babylonian temple of Be) seen during the exile. Still the scaffolding fails.

Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph are th subjects of four separate discourses. Around these ancient heroes the nimbus of marvel has been drawn, and into their stories much has been woven that was only the play of fancy. The story of Abraham contains interpolated fragments and frequent discrepancies; but the Father of the Faithful though apparently given to fetichism and nature worship, is allowed to hold a shaplace in the mind. Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph too, hold their ground after a fashion, gh we must always remember that w are dealing in Genesis with tribal legends," and "that the original traditions were worked over by later ages, and fashioned into stories that set forth the ideas and sentiments of after

times."

It must be said that these four discourses of

off in intellectual vigor and critical assault from those that were delivered before the Assistant Bishop requested Mr. Newton to bring the sourse to an end. They are, in fact, like ordinary Sunday school expositions, with a slight difference. The warning of his ecclesiastica superior appears to have taken all the virility

and spirit out of him.

The book of Mr. Newton contains many passages of eloquence and charm; and the open-ing discourses, as we have already said, show keen powers of criticism, breadth of view, and independence of mind. All through it, more-over, one gets the impression that he is an honest man.

The future course of Mr. Newton is an in-

teresting subject of speculation, both to his own denomination and to the world outside of it. It is evident that he will not hereafter be allowed by the authorities of this diocese to preach from the pulpit of All Souls' such discourses as are to be found in this book, or as were contained in his previous book on "The Bight and Wrong Uses of the Bible." But, as we understand it, he continues to hold those views, and, at the same time, to hold a pulpit where he must suppress them.

Creators of the Age of Steel. Under the above title Mr. W. T. JEANS has published, through the Mesers, Scribner, a colection of brief biographies of the six mer whose names are most conspicuously associated with the steel industry. The extraordinary improvements made in the manufacture of steel and the consequent expansion in the production of that metal justify the author in describing the period that has elapsed since 1850 as preeminently" the age of steel." It is true, also, that Great Britain has been the birthplace of all the great inventions which have increased or cheapened the fabrication of fron and steel, yet of the two men to whom she is most indebted, one, Sir Henry Bessemer, was the son of a French refuges, and the other, Sir William Slemons, was a German.

Even if we admit the propriety of including a biography of Bir Joseph Whitworth in this volume, it must be acknowledged that Sir John Brown has no more claim to figure in it than a publisher would have in a catalogue of authors. This is clear from the principles of classification laid down by Mr. Jeans himself in one of his inte chapters. There are, as he reminds us, four capital inventions or discoveries that have given unparalleled impetus to the manufacture of iron and steel: Firstly, the introducthe production of crude iron; secondly, the application of the cold blast in the Bessemer converter for the conversion of liquid iron into steel; thirdly, the production of steel directly from the ore on the open hearth; and, fourthly, the discovery of a basic lining, by which phosphorus is eliminated, and all qualities of iron are converted into steel. It is superiative improvements was connected with the iron trade, either as a mechanic or as an employer or supervisor of labor. The first of the four discoveries above named was made by Mr. J. B. Nelison, engineer to the Glasgow Gas Works. Bir Henry Bessemer was also an engineer, who, three years before the creation o his converter for the production of steel by the application of cold blast, had no knowl edge of the iron trade. Sir William Siemens, who designed and put in operation the process of producing steel directly from raw ores, was an engineer and electrician, unconne the professional iron workers. Mr. G. J. Snelus, who discovered the principle of the basic process, is the only man belonging to the trade who is entitled to a place among successful inventors, and with the perfecting of this basic process of dephosphorization we must credit Mr. S. G. Thomas, who was a member of the civil service. As for Sir John Brown, the found-er of the Atlas Steel Works at Sheffield, he was simply a capitalist who had the shrewdness to profit by the brains of other men, and particularly by those of his neighbor, Besse mer. He invented nothing, and it is as abourd to rank him among the creators of the age of steel as it would be to place a great railway contractor or speculator in railway shares among the inventors and improvers of the locomotive engine.

The case of Sir Joseph Whitworth is mani-festly different. There is no doubt that by the process invented by him he signally improved the Bessemer product, and that the Whitworth steel is superior to all others in strength and ductility, and, therefore, much better adapted to ordnance. But the improvement of the material is far from constituting the whole of Whitworth's claim to honorable material to weapons of destruction he evinced great ingenuity in devising means of increasing their range and accuracy, and subsequently, turning his attention to defensive work, he displayed equal skill in the construction of armor plating and in multiplying the power of resistance. It is, indeed, as an inventor of guns and armor plates that Sir Joseph Whitworth is best known, though undoubtedly his process of imparting greater semer steel lay at the foundation of his subse

quent achievements. But, after all deductions have been made for the meliorative and supplemental work accompilshed by rivals and successors, it remains in controvertible that the foremost name of the age of steel is that of Sir Henry Bessemer, while it is equally beyond dispute that the next The latter, of course, would have become illus trious as an electrician, even without his preclous contributions to the art of making stee

## The Biography of a New Post.

Mr. BELTON O'NEALL TOWNSEND, a lawyer of Florence, S. C., sends us a volume of poems entitled Plantation Lays, and dedicated to Mr. W. D. Howells. He also sends us a printed circular containing biographical information refriend for the benefit of "the critics and press." We have read this authorized account of Mr. Belton O'Neall Townsend's career with interest. He is twenty-nine years old. He entered college at the age of fifteen, and before he was seventeen he had reached one of the pinnacles of fame, having been chosen by his fellow atudents as President of the Euphradian Soclety. In college he was much of a recluse, "never learning to dance, and reading and studying until after midnight, fifteen hour per day." Seven years ago "he was admitted, very reluctantly, to the bar, after a sharp con troversy with his father as to his plans for life." He is "silent and shy," but his speeches at the bar "are chiefly known for their powers of ridicule, frony, polite sareasm, reductio ad absurdum, repartee, anecdotes, Illustrations allusions and quotations, clear statement, and classic tone and structure, every sentence indicating the ingrained literary training of the speaker." It is also interesting to know that the poet has "a large conveyancing, equity, and office practice," and is looked upon in Florence "as the very incarnation of the practical man of work and vim," having "carefully concealed his poetical proclivities (lest they should injure his practice) from all but a few select friends for many years." Although the poet was once a candidate for Mayor of Florence, he has never held public office. He is a Democrat, but "in England he would be an advanced Liberal of the Gladstone-Bright school." He "has the Latin advocate's idea of the nobility of his profession, and accepts only cases that suit him." Here are some further details of interest and

Here are some luntum to the provided importance:

Mr. Townsend is small in stature, being about 5 feet 5 inches high, weighing about 120 pounds, pays some attention to dress, has rether inxurious and spicurem testes, and (while not handsome) the delicate and retiring appearance of a student; he is never without gleves and cane, makes as framan when at his post as Prosident of the flope Pire Company. His head is large, with the company of the head of the summaried, thought fresh less, the indeed need. He is the liberary and cottal culture, or simply beauty, also!

It may seem that we pay more attention to Mr. Belton O'Neall Townsend's biography than to his postical works collected in the volume which the dreular introduces to our notice. If

MR. JOHN JACON ASTOR'S GIFT TO THE ARTOR LIBRARY.

Ten works, comprising sixteen volumes and costing about \$50,000, have been recently presented to the Astor Library. The contliness of the volumes and the munificence of the gift will perhaps impress the multitude more than its intrinsic worth, and the noble philanthropy which has brought within reach of the American people literary treasures which heretofore may only have gratified the ambition of collectors or feasted the eyes of occasional visitors. They are not works to enter into general circulation, or even to be used by ordinary students for reference; they are standards and monuments of the past, of vast and undying interest and importance; historical landmarks beginning with the conversion of the Franks and ending with the preparations for the Reformation, the invention of printing, the works of the first Reformers, and the evangelical inbors of Ellot among the Indians in New England. Observing for convenience the chronological order, this brief account is designed to explain the character of the works in question and the reason why they possess a commercial value, which, in every instance, is due, not to caprice. but to a combination of remarkable circum-

I. An Evanguluranum, or Lessons from the Gospels for Sundays and holy days throughout the year, in Latiu, containing most probably the revised text made at the instance of Charlemagne by Alcuin, and written on vellum about the year 870, or about a thousand years ago. This manuscript is not only in a state of perfect preservation, but is a truly magnificent specimen of the art of writing and illumination. How many years of patient and skilful toll were spent in its production by scribe and illuminator we do not know, but its exquisite beauty and splendor of ornsmentation, its miniatures and full-length fig. ures in gorgeous coloring, and its many pages written in fluid gold on purple and white, warrant the supposition that it was made for Charles the Bald, and proclaim it to be one of the noblest and best specimens of mediaval art. It is most probably the oldest Latin manu-script in the United States, and the price of

\$5,000 is not too high.

II. Wycliffe's New Testament, assigned to bout A. D. 1390, is a fine and perfect copy on veilum in small folio, one of eight perfect and genuine copies of the translation made by John Wycliffe himself from the Latin. It is the first translation into English made by the forerunner of the Reformation, the semi-millennial anniversary of whose death has just been celebrated with great enthusiasm in London. This MS. called S by Forshall and Madden, has furnished the text of the prologues to the Epistles to the Bomans, and to the Catholic Epistles in the superb edition of the Wycliffite Versions published by those laborious and accurate scholars. It was at one time the property either of Bichard, Duke of Gloucester, afterward Richard III., or of one near to him, as is evident from his autograph at the bottom of the first page. A UOUS ME LY GLOUCESTER, i. e. A vous je me lie. A title has been prefixed to the volume by a hand of the early part of the eighteenth century, ascribing the translation to John Wycliffe, in 1371. The orthography i remarkable; e. g. a noen, oen, noen stand for anone, one, none; kum, kunbree, kuppe stand for come, country, cup, and torthi, tord, torshipen designate teorthi, toord, teorshipen. It is the most valuable Wyellfie MS, in America and well worth the price of \$5,000.

III. A Missal according to the use of Sarum, in folio, an illuminated manuscript, assigned to A. D. 1440 circa, possesses a special interest from the fact that it belonged at one time to St. Stephen's Chapel, which occupied the site of the present Houses of Parliament. It is a splendid specimen of a work of peculiar value in connection with the origin of the Book of Common Prayer.

These are the manuscripts. The printed books follow:
IV. DURANDI RATIONALE DIVINORUM OF-

FICIORUM. Part of the colophon reads: \* \* consummatus Per Johannem fust cinem Maguntinum. Et petrum Gernssheym. Clericum diocess, einsdem. Anno domini Millesimoguadragintesimo quinquagesimonono. Sez die Octobris. This imports that the volume, a folio, was finished by Johann Fust, a citizen of Mayence, and Peter (Scholfther or Schoffer) of Gernseheym in the year of our Lord 1459, on the 6th day of October. It is the third book printed with a date and this copy being on rellium, with painted and ornamented initials, was at one time the oldest printed work in the Sunderland Collection, and is now the finest of its class in America. Its itself was written in the thirteenth century. and is one of the standards of reference in Christian Liturgies.

V. BIBLIA LATINA, IUXTA VULGATAM EDI TIONEM, two volumes in folio, printed on Vellum. The colophon at the end of Vol. II., printed in carmine, reads: "Praesens hoc opusculum finitum, ac completum et ad eusebiam dei industrie in ciuitate Maguntina per Johannem fust ciuem et Petrum Schoifher de gernsheym clericum diotes, eiusdem est consummatum. Anno incarnacionis dominice M.CCCC.LXII. In vigilia assumcionis gl'se virginis Marie." This imports that the work was finished and completed, &c., in the city of Mayence by Johann Fust, a citisen, and Peter Schoiffer of Gernsheym, &c., in the year of our Lord 1462, on the vigil of the assumption of the glorious Virgin Mary. This is un questionably a copy of the noblest and best work of Pust and Schöffer's press, and is the first printed Bible with a date. The text is that of the Alcuinian recension, and this copy. also from the Sunderland Collection, is truly magnificent; the typography is marvellous as to beauty and accuracy, the numbers of the chapters, the headings of the books, and the small capitals being painted in blue and red, and the large initials ornamented and painted in red, white, and blue. This is probably the handsomest book in the United States, and

costa \$9,000.
VI. BIBLIA SACRA POLYGLOTTA, Hebraice, Chaldaice, et Grace, cum tribus interpretationibus latinis : de mandato ac sumtibus cardinalis D. F. Francisci Xinenes de Cisneros, impressa, &c. Compluti, 1514, 1515, and 1517. 6 volumes in folio. This is a splendid and perfect copy of the celebrated Complutensian Polyglot Bible, containing the Hebrew, the Chaldee, and Greek versions, with three Latin translations. It is the first Polygot printed and a truly magnificent work, produced at the sole charge of Cardinal Ximines at a cost of more than fifty thousand crowns of gold. On the authority of Floohier (Hist. du Card. Ximenes, I. 1 pp. 175-179. Amsterdam, 1693, 12 mo.), he exclaimed on receiving the last volume: thank thee, my Saviour Jesus Christ, that be fore I die I see the completion of what I most earnestly desired," and said to his friends: There is nothing on which you ought to congratulate me so much as this edition of the Bible, which opens those sacred sources from which a purer theology may be drawn than from those rivulets from whence, in general, it VIL TYNDALE'S PENTATEUCH OF 1530 .- This

ok is imperfect, and contains only the books

of Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deute-

of Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy. The only perfect copy known is in the Grenville Library. The copy in the Lenpx Library is all but perfect, only two folios having been supplied in fac simile. The four books contained in this volume, but recently brought to light, appear to be perfect and in excellent condition. They contain the first translation of the Hebrew text into English, and the entire work is one of the noblest monuments of English literature. It would be difficult, perhaps impossible, to find a first translation from the original in casy language superior to this, which, for critical purposes, is most important to students of the English Bibls. Its listory has a romantic and tragical interest. The place where it was printed is still unknown, and its author died a martyr's death. This is the translation which will be published early in the fall.

VIII. BIBLIA. The Bible, That is, the Holy Scripture of the Oide and New Testement, faithfully and truly translated out of Douche and Latyn in to Englusche by Miles Coverdale), folio, 1536. This is a copy of the first English Bible, in good condition, but not perfect. A perfect copy of this rare work has not ret been discovered. condition, but not perfect. A perfect copy of this rare work has not yet been discovered, its merits as a translation are not of a high order, but as the first printed English Bible it pessesses great historical interest, and its rarity jumers to it a high commercial value. The title page and the epistle to Hanry

VIII. in this copy are in fac simile; it lacks a map and prologue, and contains several verbal restorations with pen and ink. In all other respects it is complete.

IX. Biblia Sacra Veteris et Novi Testamenti in its vulgatam quam dieunt editionem. Paris, 1558, is folio.

This Bible possesses but slight critical value; it is one of Jean Benoit's for Benedictus) Latin Bibles. This copy illustrates the value of a name, the inscription "Jo. Grolleris et amicorum" being proof that it formed part of the collection of Groller, a patron of learned men who was born at Lyons in 1479, and was Grand Treasurer to Francis I. His was sent on an embassy to Rome, and engaged the Adduses to print for him some of the classics. The spirit of the man is indicated in the inscription importing that he regarded his large collection of valuable works both as his own property and that of his friends. The practice of lettering volumes on the back is said to have originated with him. This copy of the Latin Bible is in the original saif binding, the sides and the back being handsomely ornamented with painted compartments. It is a literary curiosity, the high price of nine hundred dollars being solely due to the circumstance that it is a genuine Groller. X. The Hotx BIBLE; containing the Old Testament and the heavy and with the consent of the Corporation in Rangiand for the propagation of the Gensel amongst the Indians in New England. 2 vols. is 1, small 40, Cambridge (Mass.) 1661, 1663. This copy of an exceedingly rare book contains the England for the propagation of the Gensel amongst the Indians in New England. The New Testament bound in leather for the use of the Indians. The most interesting feature of this first edition numbered 1,500 copies of the Bible, hesides 200 copies of the Medication but also to the title, some having an Indian title, others an English title, and a few both titles. A second edition was published in 1685. The Leavx Library has two copies of the New Testament of 1661, three copies of the New Testament of 1661, t

DARK LIFE IN LONDON.

LONDON, May 20 .- "Jam and glory" was shouting out to a reeling guardsman an intoxi-cated Delilah.

"As sure as yer 'ave halready the longest part of yer foot in 'ell, I'll brain yer if ye don't cork yer kisser," put in a third companion. "Glory and jam," repeated the female de-

A smarting left hander whizzed past my ears. but landed in space. The party it was intended for had just dropped down like dead, presumably dead drunk. This party was a hatless and shawlless woman, fine and bold look-ing, with a suckling infant hanging on her naked breast. By a sad miracle the baby had not been unbooked by the fall, and long pur-sued his meal happily on the ground. Little attention was given to the levelled creature. The public house was crowded, its staff taxed

to the verge of exhaustion. Now, he who to the verge of exhaustion. Now, he was does not see that it would seriously interfere with the business of a prosperous saloon were potboys to neglect the still standing customers for the floored ones, has never passed the threshold of one. This was on a Saturday night. I will not give the name of the assembly room. It is within an easy distance of Tottenham Court road. It retails very good beer and possesses some very old lauded liquors. There is a silent and unpretentious parlor at the back of the public bar, where sat one night, not a score of years ago, three select companions. The conversation was purposely stified. The purse of one of the strangers was a long one, his taste fastidious, his thirst unquenchavle, his pot companions no tectotalers. In a few minutes three bottles of Cliquot Extra Dry were lying empty on the table. Meanwhile curious data liltered through the talk. To get possession of it I speculate that Chief Superinteauent Williamson of Scotland Yard, who is one of the sharpest men I know, would have led a run on the Treasury, and been rewarded for his investment. French, German, and other foreigners haunt this hostelry. Those strangers do not belong to the upper classes of their country. Neither do they hold any appointment under their Government, They cherish the most alarming systems in politics. I rish, also, convivially group round that cosmopolitan bar.

On this Saturday night there were three of them freehly landed from America, on a short visit to London. They were not courtiers in disguise, out for a lark. I would not have exchanged my rustic life against that of the millionaire who would have proposed emptying a glass with them in honor of the sovereign. It would have been equally ill-advisable to ask them for an expression of disapprobation for the last essays of the power of dynamic on resisting agencies. Indeed, I should not be surone night, not a score of years ago, three select

It would have been equally ill-advisable to ask them for an expression of disapprobation for the last essays of the power of dynamite on resisting agancies. Indeed, I should not be surprised had they had the article on them. The police have lately captured a not unimportant quantity of Atlas powder, but I guess that at the present moment there is enough of the them.

prised has they had the article on them. The police have lately captured a not unimportant quantity of Atlas powder, but I guess that at the present moment there is enough of the smuggled commodity in London to level the giganatic city to the ground. Fortunately, all dynamiters are not blind to the direct or indirect perils attending the handling of the ware. It was a sade artibition of ignorance on the part of those trenchant critics to laugh to scorn Lord Beaconafield's belief in scoret societies. It is childish to consider them as all-powerful, as some have frequently been inclined to do since, but to deny that they exist and act is equally foolish. Any detective anxious to shorten his days could, with a little judgment, get enlisted in the Brotherhood right off within the very sight of St. Paul's Cathedral.

To the Irish republic said, raising his glass, one of the three American Irishmen, a resolute-looking man.

To the Irish republic, echoed a small crew of darederil neighbors. Then they all flercely ilooked round as if to ascertain that there was no suspicious character sneaking at their albows. I would not have given half a cent for the existence of that indiscreet individual. The listropolitan police is not a sleepy body, but many tragedies never come to its knowledge, and many disappearances remain eternal mysteries. One evening I had to meet by appointment a German, who, after the most diversified existence, had become Secretary of one of the leading sections of the anarchist party. He did not come. I went to his lodgings. He was not there. I finally inquired from a party who should have known. The answer was that the man had been executed for having soid the resolutions voted in one of the situings and that not trace of him would ever be found. And it was true.

It would be a breach of frust to give the description of the proposer and supporters of the rebullious tosat, so it cannot be furnished. But this can be told, for the separatists have no objection to its being known that they meet head out,"

pina."
All laughed. The potboy hursed a sulphurous cath and seized the arm of the horizontal body. But the next instant he was up, pale with hideous terrer. "By God," said he, "she is right dead," said a Yankee confirmatively."

DISTILLING ATTAB OF BOSES.

The Rese Parme in India where the Planters Gra S160 as Ounce for their Product. "Genuine attar of roses," remarked a New York chemist, "which is made in India and Australia costs \$100 an ounce at the places of distillation. It takes 50,000 rose blooms to distillation. It takes 50,000 rose blooms to yield an ounce of attar. They are the common roses, and grow in great profusion in California, where the distillation of attar could be made a very profitable industry. I have seen hedge rows near Bamona, in that State, so dense with these roses that the door from them on a warm, sultry day caused a feeling of peculiar faintness and oppression in the passer by. This is the effect of the attar that is distilled by the heat and moist air, and is held suspended, as it were, in the atmosphere.

There is money in that cause of faintness and indolence, but in this country not only the sweetness, but the great value of the flowers, is wasted on the desert air. In northern India the roses are regularly cultivated. They are planted in rows in fields, and require no particular care. When they begin to bloom they are picked before mid-day. The work is done by women and children, who seem to regard it more as a pleasure than a pursuit of labor. The rose leaves are distilled in twice their weight of water, which is drawn off into open vascals. These are allowed to stand over night, being covered un with cloths to keep out diff and insects. In the morning the water is consed with a thin oily film. This is the rare attar of rose. It is skimmed off with a fine feather and dropped into vials. The procuss continues daily until the bushes cease to bloom. So it may well be imagined that any executes of oil that requires the distilling of \$0.000 seen to fail an evene vial has a right to have a seen seen to the continues of the procuse to the distilling of \$0.000 seen to fail an evene vial has a right to have a seen the continues of the procuse that the distilling of \$0.000 seen to fail an evene vial has a right to have a see the continues and continues the distilling of \$0.000 seen to fail an evene vial has a right to have a see the continues and continues the distilling of \$0.000 seen to fail the continues the distilling of \$0.000 seen to fail the continues the distilling of \$0.000 seen yield an ounce of attar. They are the common

WAS IT THE SHA BERPENT? The Moneter a Maine Man Caught and the

"There's a man," said the skipper of a smack at the Fulton Market dock, pointing to a figure awang aloft, engaged in mast-scraping, "what saw a regular sea sarpint."
"Can't he be lowered down?" suggested the he reporter.

"Sartin," replied the skipper, "It's dry work, sir, scrapin' masts after a long cruise."

The hint being taken a few moments later the sea serpent observer and the skipper flied

into a neighboring snug harbor.

"So ye want to hear about that see sarpint?"
said the late scraper. Perhaps ye never heard
the yarn of the Mary Bell brig? Wall, the skipper of the Mary Bell brig was a close connec-tion of mine. We was one of the pi'neers o' Boothbay, Maine, and sailed the first Boothbay fruiter to foreign parts. The old man's name was Muggridge, and there's millions of 'em twixt York and Boothbay, all descendants of the old man.

"Wall, as I was a-sayin', he was the skipper o' the Mary Bell, and durin' one of the old wars he was down in the channel runnin' fur Nassau fur a load of pineapples, when all at once he

he was down in the channel runnin' fur Nassau fur a load of pineapples, when all at once he sights a privateer under jury masts. Ehe runs alongside the skipper and says:

"What'll ye charge to tow us into Nassau fur the thousand dollars, sags the Squire, "Five thousand dollars, sags the Squire, "Five thousand dollars, sags the Squire, and then the thousand be d—, says the Squire, and then the thousand be day, and at last the Capter of the thousand the same said then they had it hot and heavy, and at last the Captein of the privateer offered the Squire a thousand dollars for his masts. The Squire took him up, and, the weather being good, in three days the privateer had the Mary Beil'a spars, and the latter was a-floating along under jury masts.

"Ye see," said the story teller, "she was insured, and he only hired her. He bore up for the Guif Stream, and in a week it had lifted him up along the Georgia coast, and, seeing a wassel, he put out a gnals and got a tow to Charleston. The next day the yarns that kem out in them papers would have made a horse lauth. The old man jest let himself out. The yarn was that he was a sailin' along one day, when the first thing he knew a critter about 200 feet long, reared up alongside, wound around the masts, and threw the brig on her beam ends. The hatches happened to be covered so she did not fill, and siter the critter had made off after tearin' up the riggin, they had creat out and cut away the masts, righted ship, rigged jury masts, and gof into the Stream, so as to be picked up.

"Wall, continued the scraper, "that was the old man's yarn. So, ye see, I'm from sea sarpint stock. But this ere sarpint I see wasn't nigh onter so big as the old man's and there ain't no doubt about it, as I know the man what hauled it in.

"I was a chap named Hanna from Pema-quid, about ten miles north o' Boothbay. He was out fishin', and in takin' in his deep net felt it kinder heavy, and aings out to me and my boy:

"Dan, I reckon I've got a dead whale."

"Up he hauls, and all of a sudden ther

was out fishin, and in takin' in his deep net feit it kinder heavy, and sings out to me and my boy:

"Dan, I reckon I've got a dead whale.'

"Up he hauls, and all of a sudden there shows up the head of a fish that looked like a shark, but it wasn't. It tore the net, and Hanna got it out the best he could and hev it over. We reckoned it was about thirty foot long, and a big eel. Ye know sea-goin folks don't think nothin' of odd fish, so we marely took a look at it from where we was and thinks no more about it. But when we got in shore and tells the yarn, the hull place was upaot. Half a dozen of these ere summer visitors was half crasy.

"One says: 'Why, man, ye had the sea sarpint.' Another says: Ye let a fortune ally through yer fingers along o' yer ignorance.' Another says: Ye might hev took that fish to New York and Boston and made \$100 a day for six months."

Another says: Ye might hev took that fish to New York and Boston and made \$100 a day for six months.

"Wai!" said the fisherman, "I'd seen the sea sarpent, and I reckon Hanna felt sick. A feller offered me \$10 to take him to the spot and \$50 if I would drag it up agin, but it kam on to blow, and that's the last we see of it. But, he concluded, "ye kin bet yer life, friend, the next time I see a sea sarpint I'll cling to it."

The strangest part of the sailor's account is that it is true, and the reporter found by intuiting that the fish had been duly investigated by Prof. Baird of the Smithsonian, and Mr. J. M. Allen, the Hartford naturalist. As soon as the facts came to Mr. Allen he sent a number of questions to Hanna, who replied:

From the head to the tall (exclusive of the head) it looked very much like an eel. The body was round, or very mast that form. From the head (exclusive of the imm) toward the tals was about twelve or fitsen feet. I was that of a common sel. The color of its hack was a same to the same two fins, one on either side, a little shaft the head. They were not stiff-pointed fins like the shaft he head. They were not stiff-pointed fins like the shaft or swordshab, but more like the side fins of the cod or sunish, only they were in size to correspond with the fish. The color defeated the sunish, only they were in the size correspond with the fish. The color defeated the top of of the mackage is not the cod. I do not know whether it was stationary or closed, like the top of of the mackage is an other side of the

In fact the unknown has been almost caught but slipped away.

## THE NEGRO'S MISTARE.

Mis Reward for Cutting the Thront of his Democratic Benefactor in Philade PHILADELPHIA, May 31.—Semuel S. King,

Democrat, who was recently defeated in a contest for reflection as Mayor of this city, did what no other Mayor of Philadelphia. Democratic or to say, he appointed negroes to the police force. He put on twenty or thirty. The innoforce. He put on twenty or thirty. The innovation obtained him about three hundred negro Republican votes. It cost him six or seven thousand Democratic votes. He was defeated by William B. Bmith, a Stalwart Republican, by about eight thousand. The negroes, notwithstanding the recognition that the Democratic Mayor had given them, were among the most enthusiastic shouters and workers for the Democratic Mayor's opponent, while a few colored men appeared and in some cases spoke at the meetings of the reform Republican party that had come out for Kr. King, the great bulk of them paraded the streets with bands of music, carried banners, and labored at the poils in the interest of the regular Republican candidate. Worse than this some of the negro officers actually betrayed their chief to his enemies. One of them spent a night in consultation with Republican sub-workers, when he ought to have been on duty on the streets. Another left his post at 1 colock in the morning to give to the eading Republican newspaper an order which had been issued at midnight concerning the disposal of officers for duty on election day. The order, it is said, had been misunderstood or garbied. A similar one had been issued regularly for years by Rr. King's Republican predecessor, and was intended to increase the officiency of officers by transferring them for election day to parts of the city where they were not known, and where their attention to duty would not be distracted by discussion with, or partiality for, friends. Nevertheless it was made to appear that Rr. Ring's order was a scheme to defraud the Republican officers of their votes. Some of the officers resigned at once. Others disobeyed the command. The order itself was used as a campaign bugaboo on election day. It frightened many a wavering vote into the Republican baskst.

Our older has been craning its neck to see what the stalwart Smith would do in return for all this. The negroes have been deprived of many privileges that they had under Mr. Kings. They have been ordered to r vation obtained him about three hundred negro Republican votes. It cost him six or